# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS **BROWNSVILLE DIVISION**

JUN 2 2 2006

LUIS ALEJANDRO GARZA തതതതതത VS. CIVIL ACTION NO. B-02-154 FEDERAL TORT CLAIMS ACT THE UNITED STATES OF **AMERICA** 

#### PLAINTIFF'S UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE

#### TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

COMES NOW, LUIS ALEJANDRO GARZA, Plaintiff in the above-entitled and numbered cause, by and through his attorney of record, and files this motion for continuance, and in support thereof would respectfully show as follows:

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This cause is presently set for trial on July 25, 2006. This is the first motion for continuance. It is uncontested.

II.

Plaintiff has been delayed in preparing for trial for the following reasons:

Discovery was abated in this case while the issues pertaining to the a. government's motion to dismiss were litigated.

- b. Plaintiff's counsel did not receive notice from the Court of Appeals that the court's judgment had been reversed for nearly three (3) months after the mandate was issued:
- Defense counsel, the Honorable Nancy Masso, was unavailable to C. participate in discovery for approximately one month for health reasons; and
- Plaintiff's counsel and the government have had difficulty locating and d. providing plaintiff's attorney with access to the prisoner witnesses who were in the recreation yard at the time Plaintiff was assaulted. Some of those witnesses are no longer under the control of the government, some have been transferred to different federal facilities, and others are on supervised release. Plaintiff needs to interview these witnesses to confirm that they have information probative to the issues in this case.
- Counsel are trying to coordinate a date for Plaintiff's counsel to view e. and photograph the recreation yard and interview the prisoner witnesses who are still incarcerated at the Three River facility.
- f. There are several discovery issues the court needs to rule on. Though the court denied plaintiff's motion to compel, it did not address the request to review in-camera documents the government alleges are privileged, nor did the court address plaintiff's request for photographs and videotapes of the recreation yard and the weight lifting area.

III.

For the foregoing reasons, plaintiff requests that the trial of this cause be reset for ninety (90) days.

IV.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for the relief sought in this motion be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

Barly R. Benton 284 Ebony Avenue

Brownsville, Texas 78520

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ATTORNEY-IN-CHARGE FOR LUIS ALEJANDRO GARZA, PLAINTIFF

# **CERTIFICATE OF CONFERENCE**

Counsel for Plaintiff has conferred with counsel for Defendant and she has indicated that she is unopposed to this motion.

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Plaintiff's Unopposed Motion for Continuance has been forwarded to defense counsel of record in this cause, to wit:

# Via Hand Delivery

Ms. Nancy L. Masso **Assistant United States Attorney** 600 E. Harrison Street, #201 Brownsville, Texas 78520

ay of June, 2006.